
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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Sitka Area Office
304 Lake Street, Rm. 103
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Date: July 12, 2012
Time: 3:45 p.m.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA DRIFT GILLNET FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

Sitka. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today the opening of the Southeast Alaska drift gillnet fishery, during the times and in the areas listed below, beginning on Sunday, **July 15, 2012**.

Section 1-B: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 15, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, July 17**, with the following restriction:

Pearse and Portland Canals: will be closed north of the latitude of Akeku Point located at the southern entrance of Edwards Passage.

District 6: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 15, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, July 17**, with the following restrictions:

Section 6-D: will be closed north and east of a line from Mariposa Rock Buoy to the northernmost tip of Point Harrington, to a point on Etolin Island at 56°09.60' N. latitude, 132°42.70' W. longitude, to the southernmost tip of Point Stanhope and south of a line from Point Stanhope to Luck Point;

Salmon Bay: will be closed west of a line from Point Colpoys to Rookery Island Light to the westernmost tip of Fire Island to a point on Prince of Wales Island at the latitude of the westernmost tip of Fire Island.

District 8: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 15, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, July 17**, with the following restrictions:

Stikine River: waters off the Stikine River will be closed north and west of a line from Babbler Point to Hour Point along the shore of Wrangell Island to Point Highfield to the southern end of Liesnoi Island to the southern end of Greys Island to the small island near the eastern entrance of Blind Slough to the nearest point of Mitkof Island, and south and east of a line from the prominent point of Mitkof Island nearest Coney Island to the northern end of Coney Island to a point 500 yards north of Jap Creek on the mainland shore;

Beacon Point/Point Frederick Area: waters of Frederick Sound will be closed west of a line from the District 10 boundary one nautical mile off the Kupreanof Island shoreline to Sukoi Island Light to Point Frederick;

Kunk Creek: waters of Kunk Creek will be closed west of a line extending due south from a point on Etolin Island at 56°17.82' N. latitude, 132°22.98' W. longitude, to the District 7/8 boundary line in Zimovia Strait.

Section 11-B: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 15, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, July 17**, with the following restrictions:

Port Snettisham: waters of Port Snettisham will be closed east of a line from Point Styleman to Point Anmer;

Limestone Inlet: will be closed east of a line from a point on the north shore at 58°02.09' N. latitude, 133°58.87' W. longitude, to a point on the south shore at 58°01.92' N. latitude, 133°58.87' W. longitude (inside markers);

Gillnet mesh restriction south of the latitude of Circle Point: **from 12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 15, through 12:00 noon, Tuesday, July 17**, gillnets must have a minimum mesh size of six inches.

Section 15-A: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 15, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, July 18**, in the waters of Lynn Canal south of the latitude of Seduction Point and in the waters of Chilkoot Inlet south of the latitude of Mud Bay Point.

Section 15-C: will be open from **12:01 p.m., Sunday, July 15, through 12:00 noon, Wednesday, July 18**, in those waters within two nautical miles of the western shoreline of Lynn Canal south of the latitude of Danger Point at 58°41.73' N. latitude and in all remaining waters of Section 15-C south of the latitude of Point Bridget.

Section 15-C: waters of the Boat Harbor Terminal Harvest Area (BHHA) will be open until further notice in those waters within two nautical miles of the western shoreline of Lynn Canal from the latitude of Danger Point at 58°41.73' N latitude, south to a point 2.4 nautical miles north of Point Whidbey.

Fishermen and tenders are asked to keep king salmon harvested in the Anita Bay THA separate from those harvested in District 8. Separating these harvests will greatly assist in fish accounting purposes in regards to the Pacific Salmon Treaty.

King salmon less than 28" that are harvested in the commercial drift gillnet fisheries may be retained and sold. King salmon less than 28" in length, and those of Alaska hatchery origin, will not be counted against the Alaskan allocation of the Pacific Salmon Treaty harvest. The department is discontinuing the use of species code 411 beginning in 2012 to account for small king salmon in drift gillnet fisheries and instead will rely on ADF&G port sampling programs for that purpose. For drift gillnet fisheries, only species code 410 should be used to report king salmon of all sizes. Fish and Game samplers working at the processing facilities will also identify hatchery-reared king salmon so those fish are not counted against the Alaskan share of the harvest.

The emergency order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S4112.

Southeast Alaska Drift Gillnet Harvest Estimates
Statistical Week 28 (July 8 through 14)
Preliminary Estimates Compiled July 12, 2012

District	NUMBER OF SALMON						Boats	Days Open
	King	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum	Total		
Section 1-B	130	8,000	900	30,000	41,000	80,030	48	4
District 6	150	5,500	4,000	4,000	16,000	29,650	31	3
District 8	700	3,600	1,000	400	50,000	55,700	59	3
District 11-B	100	4,700	100	2,800	72,000	79,700	65	2
Deep Inlet THA	380	10	0	35	4,600	5,025	7	3
District 15	70	12,000	80	16,000	340,000	368,150	175	3
Total	1,530	33,810	6,080	53,235	523,600	618,255		

District	FISH PER BOAT FOR THE PERIOD						Total
	King	Sockeye	Coho	Pink	Chum		
Section 1-B	3	167	19	625	854		1,667
District 6	5	177	129	129	516		956
District 8	12	61	17	7	847		944
District 11-B	2	72	2	43	1,108		1,226
Deep Inlet THA	54	1	0	5	657		718
District 15	0	69	0	91	1,943		2,104

Anita Bay THA: 2,500 kings and 2,000 chums harvested to date.

Nakat Inlet THA: 115,000 chums harvested to date.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

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